



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CAREER CRIMINAL INDICTED FOR FILING FALSE TAX RETURNS FROM PRISON

PHOENIX – A federal grand jury in Phoenix has returned a 23 count indictment against Crispian Rawlings, 37, for Submitting a False Claim to the U.S. Government. The indictment alleges that Rawlings, while serving a sentence for fraud in the state prison at Tucson, submitted 23 false tax returns to the U.S. Government.

The indictment alleges that Rawlings submitted over \$95,000 in false tax returns for the years 2001 through 2004. Over \$23,000 in fraudulent returns were paid out. According to the indictment, in 2004 and 2005, Rawlings filed 23 separate returns on Form 1040EZ and Form 4852 Substitute to form W-2 using the names of co-inmates and gang associates, and fictitious employment information. Rawlings was released in October 2006 but was recently rearrested and is in Maricopa County jail on a parole violation.

Rawlings admitted to investigators that he filed the returns on behalf of co-inmates and gang associates at the Tucson Rincon Unit, and that the returns benefitted associates in the Aryan Brotherhood. Rawlings has an extensive criminal history going back to 1989 including multiple assaults of law enforcement officers, fraud, and theft.

A conviction for each charge of Submitting a False Claim carries a maximum penalty of five years, a \$250,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, Judge Roslyn O. Silver will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The indictment is the result of an investigation by the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service in conjunction with investigators from the Arizona Department of Corrections Criminal Investigation Unit at the state prison in Tucson. The prosecution is being handled by Glenn B. McCormick, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-07-0061-PHX-ROS
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